

COMMISSIONERS APPROVAL

GRANDSTAFF 
ROKOSCH 
THOMPSON 

CHILCOTT

DRISCOLL

PLETTENBERG (Clerk & Recorder)

Date.....April 30, 2008

Members Present..... Commissioner Carlotta Grandstaff,
Commissioner Jim Rokosch, Commissioner Alan Thompson, Commissioner Greg
Chilcott and Commissioner Kathleen Driscoll

Minutes: Beth Perkins

► The Board met for an update on Commissioner Committees.

► The Board met for approval of use of rock from Lost Horse Quarry to use on the Kootenai Bridge replacement project. Present were Road & Bridge Supervisor David Ohnstad, Forest Service Representatives Amber Lewis and Kent Miller.

David gave an overview of the project. He stated they expect to be up there for a week to sort out the rock and haul it off site as the need arises. Commissioner Grandstaff asked how many trips would be necessary. David replied with 860 cubic yards for the Kootenai Bridge project, he would estimate it at 20 cubic yards a trip. Commissioner Rokosch requested David to describe other projects beyond Kootenai Bridge project. David replied they have identified one project in East Fork which they are working with DNRC and FWP to utilize rip rap and also a half dozen over the course of the summer. He estimates 1,500 cubic yards being utilized with 1,000 cubic yards coming from the Lost Horse Quarry. Commissioner Chilcott asked with the 43 trips out of Lost Horse, what is the cost estimate. David replied the one project is about a 23 mile difference in hauling it. There is one mile that would need to be improved. It would benefit not only the quarry owner but everyone who utilizes the road. It would be \$78.50 per hour. Commissioner Driscoll requested figures from David.

Commissioner Rokosch asked about dust control. David replied due to the time of year they would be moving it; they would use water to keep it down and possibly treat some areas with magnesium chloride. Commissioner Chilcott stated with the figures discussed it is roughly \$3,340 versus \$20,000. Commissioner Driscoll asked David if he knew of

rock available in the area of Medicine Tree. David replied the only other resources he knows of are located at West Fork and Sleeping Child.

Commissioner Grandstaff asked Amber Lewis from the Forest Service about projects this summer. Amber replied there is a project for Lake Como for a new boat launch.

Commissioner Grandstaff opened public comment.

Mark Behrman questioned the cost of the roundtrip difference numbers. He stated twice the Road Department has given inconsistent numbers and he would like some clarification.

Bob Oset asked about the material being taken out of the quarry and if it is enough. Kent Miller replied the material is there and it is strong rock.

Tori Nobles asked Commissioner Grandstaff to give an update of the meeting with Forest Service. Commissioner Grandstaff replied it was to discuss alternative resources to fund firefighting efforts on a State level. The only discussion she had with David Bull was he requested a letter from the Board for an agreement for the use of the rock.

Bob Oset questioned the road condition. David replied the problem is the road material is segregating. He stated they will go in and relay the surface. Commissioner Driscoll stated she would think it best to do it afterwards to repair the damage during the hauls. David replied the hauls would not affect the road at all after the repair.

Mark Behrman asked what the time estimation per truck load is. David stated they estimate it to be one hour from loading it to Stevensville Wye.

J.C. Howell asked the Forest Service if they had already decided to let the county use the rock. Is there any public comment being allowed for that decision to use public lands. Amber replied it is an open quarry and has been for awhile. Kent replied they are waiting for a request from the county to allow them to go in and remove the rock. J.C. stated the Forest Service has already decided to allow the county to remove the rock without public comment. Amber replied they do not have a request from the county yet.

Mark asked when they could see an analysis for the costs. He is in shock this meeting was put on the agenda Monday. He understood at the last Lost Horse Quarry meeting it was tabled indefinitely. Commissioner Grandstaff stated to her understanding, the public was ok with using the rock, it was the crusher operation in question. Mark replied no, that is not correct, they are not ok with using it at all. Commissioner Grandstaff replied she misunderstood. Mark stated his concern is with the Road Department's inconsistency with numbers. He wants to see the figures. David replied no matter how many times Mark states the numbers were inconsistent; it does not change the truth.

Tori Nobles questioned the quarry being used for crushing to get the smaller material for the Forest Service projects. Amber replied possibly. Kent added it is the cost to consider and hauling it from the pit.

Mark questioned the discussion of Lost Horse Quarry ongoing since January without public notification. Commissioner Grandstaff replied that is incorrect. There has been no further discussion of Lost Horse Quarry until this request came up and people were notified when it did.

Commissioner Rokosch stated the Kootenai Bridge Replacement project needs to be discussed in order to justify utilization of the rock from Lost Horse Quarry. Commissioner Grandstaff gave a brief summary of the project.

Tori stated she is putting her faith in the Commission for the numbers. If this is something that will help the county out in a one time deal, she cannot say no. Because they have gone through this before with the numbers not being consistent, she is relying on the Board to make the right decision.

Carol Hansen stated she has concerns with the heavy traffic and narrow spots. Can they be ensured the trucks will travel at slow speeds? David replied the existing road is a one lane with turnouts. That will not change. The drivers are highly trained experienced individuals and will be operating during the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. David discussed the sight difference with the highway and how the highway needs improvements.

Commissioner Rokosch asked for an approximate schedule for the truck travel for the residents. David replied as soon as they reach an operating plan, they can identify a time to have the trucks on the road. They are looking at mid to late July for the bridge project. Commissioner Driscoll stated her concern is the long term vision of gravel pits. She would like more vision of the direction where the county is going.

Susan Behrman stated with calculating the actual cost, no one has calculated the cost of repairing the road. What is the cost of the damage and the re-building? David replied with the private quarry there is a mile of unimproved trail to get there. The level of service is going to be the same and it comes down to the extra time of truck travel.

Steve Porcella stated the public comment time is very short for this topic. They were up there and did a head count of climbers and there were approximately 50 climbers. Because of the ongoing debate, there was an establishment of climbers with the Bitterroot Climbers Association. The big concerns are: is there a progression towards more industrialization of Lost Horse, or will there be recognition of the high recreation value of the canyon; access points into the canyon; and no one wants to see more cutting because it increases rock fall. He has talked with David Bull and he told him of the process of the letter for use.

Michael Howell stated he is stuck on the quid pro-quo of the cost analysis of getting something for free. We have heard there will be some quid pro-quo with the road repair

on Stevensville. He is wondering why the cost is not being figured in for the free gravel. Kent replied they are continually working with the county because they are both paid for by the taxpayers. If they are in there already extracting rock, it saves the Forest Service and the taxpayer's money. The Forest Service is working with the county for any cooperative ventures. David agreed with Kent. He stated it is a cooperative agreement between county and state. They have had cooperative road improvement projects. We are leveraging the cooperative agreements for the betterment of the county.

Commissioner Grandstaff closed public comment and requested a motion on the letter of request of use.

Commissioner Chilcott made a motion to issue a letter of Request for the use of rock from Lost Horse Rock Quarry and sit down with the Forest Service and Road Department for terms of use and identify utilizing up to 1000 cubic yards. Commissioner Grandstaff seconded the motion.

Commissioner Driscoll stated this is the first time she is seeing the numbers and would like time to review them. Commissioner Grandstaff stated this is to issue a letter of request that is not detailing anything. Commissioner Rokosch stated the Board needs to limit this to this project and move forward on a case by case basis.

Commissioner Grandstaff, Commissioner Rokosch, Commissioner Chilcott and Commissioner Thompson voted 'aye'. Commissioner Driscoll abstained from vote.

► The Board met for discussion and decision for OTIS Elevator contract renewal, Fire Alarm System for Courthouse and Asbestos Inspection with Maintenance Supervisor Brian Jameson.

Brian stated the contract with OTIS Elevator has been renewed every five years and does not see why it should be terminated now. He is requesting the Board sign another five year extension on the contract. Commissioner Chilcott stated the competitive market place comes into effect when you go out to bid. Commissioner Thompson stated they looked at this years ago with Civil Counsel and it was determined that only particular companies could provide service for elevators such as rollers, etc.

Commissioner Chilcott made a motion to approve the contract extension. Commissioner Rokosch seconded the motion. All voted 'aye'.

Commissioner Thompson stated he has reviewed the contract specifics with Northern Fire and Communication for the Fire Alarm System for the Courthouse. Brian stated they have benefited from the electrical work they already completed.

Commissioner Thompson made a motion to award the contract of \$3,560 to Northern Fire Communications. Commissioner Chilcott seconded the motion. All voted 'aye'.

Commissioner Rokosch made a motion to authorize payment for the Asbestos Inspection. Commissioner Chilcott seconded the motion. All voted 'aye'.

► **The Board met for budget hearing with Extension Office.**